



## National Black Deaf Advocates

### **2009 NBDA AWARDS** **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

- A. Active, continued support of the NBDA objectives as described in ARTICLE 11 of the NBDA by-laws
- B. Contribution to the Black deaf community through personal involvement, leadership volunteerism, civic awareness, responsibility, advocacy; the promotion of Black deaf awareness through emphasis on the positive aspects on our culture, heritage and accomplishments, the open and personal achievements in education and economic opportunities and general enchantment of living standards of Black deaf people.

Achievement/contributions in deaf related technology, research, invention, the social services politics, economic and educational opportunities that impact the Black deaf population.

To receive an NBDA Award, an individual and/or organization must be nominated by proper officers, organizations, or individuals as described in the rules and regulation. NBDA will not consider self-nominations. The NBDA Board will finalize the acceptance of the Nominations. Recipients of the awards will be presented at the 2009 NBDA Conference in Arizona.

I require your highly cooperation to motivate and encourage the members to consider carefully their nominations. Enclosed you will find several descriptions of the award and nomination applications. The deadline to forward the nomination application to NBDA Vice President is **March 30, 2009**.

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Please submit the nomination application(s) to NBDA Vice President, Benro Ogunyipe:

Mailing Address: Benro Ogunyipe  
National Black Deaf Advocates  
393 Oglesby Ave  
Calumet City, IL 60409

Sincerely yours,

Benro Ogunyipe  
NBDA Vice President

## THE LINWOOD SMITH HUMANITARIAN AWARD

*THIS DISTINGUISHED AWARD IS MADE FOR A REGULAR MEMBER OF NBDA WHO DEMONSTRATED HIS/HER ACTIVE SUPPORT OF THE NBDA AND THE OBJECTIVES OF NBDA AS DESCRIBED IN ARTICLE 11 OF THE NBDA BY-LAWS.*

Linwood D. Smith was many things to the Black deaf community. He can be described as humanitarian, a poet, and educator, a community activist, advocate for the mental impaired or simply as a friend of deaf people who just happened to be black, deaf, and gifted. Linwood Smith was a black deaf advocator long before the emergence of Black deaf Advocates as an organization. Linwood Smith was very active and personally involved as well as vocal; contributing his time, energy, talents, skills and funds to the BDA concepts at a time when BDA was just an unnamed, untitled idea or dream shared about the special needs of the Black deaf population around the nation. Linwood Smith was a Black deaf male who dared to dream, to aspire and inspire others to make a difference by initiating and participating in the positive actions needed to address those needs.

Linwood Smith had a unique relationship with BDA and the national need for valid Black deaf role models.

This award is a personal memorial to Linwood Smith as well as an annual reminder of where we were yesterday, understanding and increased awareness of where we are today, and an inspiration to dream and aspire for a better tomorrow.

### THE LINWOOD SMITH HUMANITARIAN AWARD NOMINATION

- A. Name of the individual and/or organization
- B. Elaborate the background information on the person and/or organization's accomplishments
- C. Why you feel this person and/or organization should receive the Linwood Smith Humanitarian Award

**This nomination must be in typing or writing clearly, and signed by your chapter president and at least two other officers.**

## ANDREW FOSTER HUMANITARIAN AWARD

*THIS DISTINGUISHED CAN BE FOR EITHER INDIVIDUAL, ACHIEVEMENT OR FOR A GROUP OR ORGANIZATION EFFORT. RECIPIENTS NEED NOT TO BE BDA MEMBERS, BLACK, OR ESPECIALLY FOCUSED ON THE BLACK DEAF COMMUNITY BUT HAVE SIILAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AS ANDREW FOSTER WUTH DEAF CHILDREN IN THR USA OR ANY FOREIGN COUNTRY.*

Andrew J. Foster was an active and very important member of the deaf community. He was the first Black person to graduate from Gallaudet University. He devoted his life to making the world better for thousands, perhaps million of black deaf people. It is because of him that so many students from Africa have attended Gallaudet University.

Andrew Foster was a teacher, missionary, and fighter for human rights. Andrew Foster was the founding teacher of schools for deaf children in Africa.

Andrew Foster set up his first school in Africa for deaf children with 12 students, then the school grew quickly and after five years the school spread to 12 more African countries. He accomplished for deaf African the same rights that hearing African have – get jobs, get married, and be respected. Andrew Foster participated in the positive actions needed to address those needs.

Hundreds of Deaf African has a better life because of the dream and determination of this dedicated deaf American.

This award is as a personal memorial to Andrew Foster as well as an annual reminder of where we were yesterday, understanding and increased awareness of where we are today, and an inspiration to dream and aspire for a better tomorrow.

### THE ANDREW FOSTER HUMANITARIAN AWARD NOMINATION

- A. Name of the individual and/or organization
- B. Elaborate the background information on the person/group or organization's accomplishments...
- C. Why you feel that this person/group, organization should receive the Andrew Foster Humanitarian Award.

**This nomination must be in typing or writing clearly and must be signed by two nominators.**

## **BRONZE HAND AWARD**

***INDIVIDUALS SHOULD NOT POSSES DRUG OR FELONIOUS BACKGROUND.***

This high recognition award is for:

A Black deaf individual who

- a. is a worthy individual who possesses characteristics desirable as a Black deaf role model, whether it is a personal matter.
- b. has characteristics of activities to be recognized for:
  - a. volunteerism
  - b. active leadership
  - c. scholarship & excellence
  - d. dedication to serving Black community and/or deaf community
  - e. innovative program implementations
  - f. sportsmanship
  - g. art contributions in any form
  - h. religious involvement
  - i. political involvement
  - j. involvement with youth, senior citizens or mentally retarded, and ill.

## **BRONZE HAND AWARD**

- A. Name of the individual
- B. Elaborate the background information on the person's accomplishment.
- C. Why you feel that this person should receive the Bronze Hand Award.

**This nomination must be in typing or writing clearly, and must be signed by two nominators.**

### **ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR AWARD**

This special award is designed to recognize our unsung heroes and heroines, the mostly silent minority whose realities are the people who really keep NBDA going. Those people are almost always overlooked when praises are being sung and never got any thanks or encouragement for their efforts.

- A. Name of the individual
- B. Elaborate the background information on the person's accomplishment.
- C. Why you feel that this person should receive The Advocate of the Year Award.

**All nominations must be in typing or writing clearly, and signed by your chapter president and at least two other officers.**